National Forest Policy, 1988. The draft strategy mooted above, proposes, besides Stepped-up allocations for tree planting by various Ministries of the Government, mobilization of resources by stakeholders outside the government in their rational self-interest, and other policy and administrative reforms in the forestry and allied sectors.

(b) to (d) In view of above, questions do not arise.

Funds for preservation of forests and wildlife

476. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount of money meant for preservation of forests and wildlife has accumulated with the Union Government and is lying unused for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have not yet utilized it despite orders of the Supreme Court, and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps being taken/taken so far by Union Government to formulate a policy to utilize the accumulated funds on afforestation and conservation; and

(e) the steps taken/expected to be taken by Government to check diversion of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (e) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, *vide* order dated 29.10.2002 in WP(C) No. 202 of 1995, directed that Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land diverted for non-forestry purposes with the prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall be paid by the User Agencies in addition to other usual payments for Compensatory Afforestation, Conservation and Protection of National Parks/Sanctuaries etc. The Hon'ble Court also directed that the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) shall constitute a body for management of the funds received on account of diversion of forest land in the country under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In compliance of the above order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Ministry of Environment and Forests issued a Notification dated 23.04.2004 for constitution of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). The process of obtaining Cabinet approval to the revised CAMPA Notification is underway.

Meanwhile, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, *vide* order dated 05.05.2006, observed that CAMPA had still not become operational, and hence, constituted an Ad-hoc Body of CAMPA in the Ministry of Environment and Forests for transfer of all the funds recovered on behalf of the CAMPA, which were then lying with the State/Union Territory Governments, and to get it audited.

So far, an amount of about Rs. 5,000 crore has been received by the Ad-hoc body of CAMPA from various States/Union Territories towards Compensatory

Afforestation, Net Present Value (NPV), Conservation and Protection of National Parks/Sanctuaries, etc.

As yet, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has not permitted to release the funds deposited in the Ad-hoc body of CAMPA

Assistance and clerance granted to environmental projects

477. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of assistance and clearance granted to the environmental projects of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh during the last two years and the current year;

(b) the details of proposals submitted by Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh Governments for environmental clearance as on date;

(c) the total cost of cleared proposals, and

(d) by when these pending projects would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fund for development and promotion of forests

478. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any policy for afforestation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total fund allotted and sanctioned for development and promotion of forests in the country, particularly in Sikkim during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme in the country for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining lands. The scheme is being implemented through a two-tier decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level.

(c) The funds released to Sikkim and other States under the NAP Scheme, including maintenance of Plantations raised in the Ninth Plan period, during last three years (2004-05 to 2006-07) are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below)